

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 04592 060743Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00
/026 W

-----010998 070452Z /65

R 051651Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2405
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 4592

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, LE, IS
SUBJECT: VISITS TO SOUTHERN LEBANON

REF: STATE 085464

1. DURING A 4 APRIL IDF EXERCISE ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS, MAJOR GENERAL A. BEN GAL, GOC NORTHERN COMMAND AND COMMANDER OF IDF FORCES IN LEBANON, TOLD COL. WILLIAMS (ARMA) THAT HE, BEN GAL, WANTED TO TAKE WILLIAMS ON A VISIT TO SOUTHERN LEBANON NEXT WEEK AND WOULD CALL EARLY IN THE WEEK TO SET IT UP. INITIATIVE WAS BEN GAL'S.

2. BEN GAL IS AN OLD FRIEND OF ARMA'S. THIS WOULD BE A PERSONALLY SPONSORED VISIT TO THE VARIOUS IDF UNITS IN THE AREA AS OPPOSED TO ONE SPONSORED BY IDF FOREIGN LIAISON. I BELIEVE THAT VISIT, IF IT ACTUALLY COMES OFF, WOULD BE WORTHWHILE. IT WOULD GIVE ARMA A MUCH CLEARER APPRECIATION OF IDF POSITIONS AND ACTIVITY ON THE GROUND AND FROM THE AIR THAN WE PRESENTLY HAVE. ADDITIONALLY, THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE WITH THE SENIOR COMMANDER IN THE AREA FOR A HALF-DAY OR MORE WILL BE BENEFICIAL AS FAR AS GAINING SOME INSIGHT INTO IDF INTENTIONS. I THEREFORE RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL.

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Message Attributes

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